

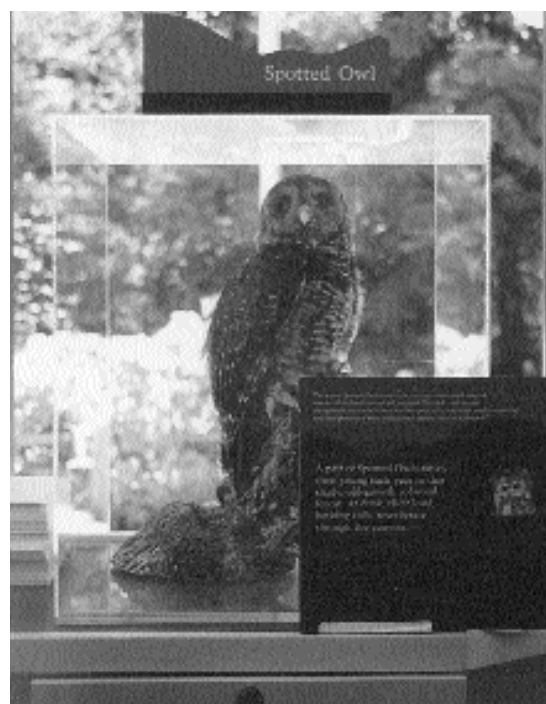
Mia Monroe

A Rare Spot for an Owl

Nearly 10,000 people visit Muir Woods National Monument each day during daylight hours, thus missing a special nocturnal resident of this old-growth redwood forest, the northern spotted owl. To help people appreciate the value of protecting this forest for rare and endangered species, a spotted owl specimen from the park collections is on public display. Special ultraviolet filtering plexiglass protects the owl and it is behind the one window that does not open.

The specimen was donated to the park with all of the proper permits. It was donated because Muir Woods would be a highly visible location for public education. Some side benefits have included being able to use the specimen when training the volunteer owl-monitoring corps and matching up feathers to confirm owl presence in other areas.

Mia Monroe is a park ranger at Muir Woods. She can be reached at the Monument, Mill Valley, CA 94941, 415-388-2596, cc:Mail address GOGA Muir Woods NM.



Bob Chenoweth and Linda Paisano

Sapatqayn, Nakia's Link to the Past

Nez Perce National Historical Park (NEPE) is centered on the Nez Perce Reservation in North Central Idaho. It is rather unusual in that it consists of 38 disconnected sites scattered though Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. Sites include traditional Nez Perce campsites, geologic features associated with Nez Perce creation stories and stories of Coyote's many adventures, the old officer's quarters at Ft. Lapwai, battle sites associated with the Nez Perce War of 1877, and sites associated with several missionary enterprises. NEPE's museum collections are as varied as are the sites. They include the herbarium from the

Big Hole Battlefield, furnishings from Watson's General Store in Spalding, firearms used by Nez Perce warriors and U.S. Army soldiers, and an extensive collection of ethnographic material and historic photography.

Nakia Williamson, a 20-year-old gifted Nez Perce artist, began researching the Nez Perce National Historical Park photo collection when he was in high school, to inspire his artistic pursuits and better understand his Nez Perce ancestry. He is now a student at the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This summer he has an internship from the Museum Studies program to work at Nez Perce National Historical Park. Nakia works in the Cultural Resource Branch getting practical experience with the Park's photo collection, record keeping and the care and storage of artifacts.

While looking at objects in the collection associated with horse use and some ceremonial clothing, Nakia and author Linda Paisano came upon an eagle feather bustle used as part of dance regalia. The bustle had three parts consisting of an inside layer made of tail feathers, a layer where feathers had been trimmed in half to nestle against an outer layer which had been partially trimmed. Attached to each outer feather was a 2"-3" length of fine braided horsehair and attached to the end of this was down fluff.

Nakia and Linda with eagle feather bustle. Photo by Bob Chenoweth.

